Technical Note

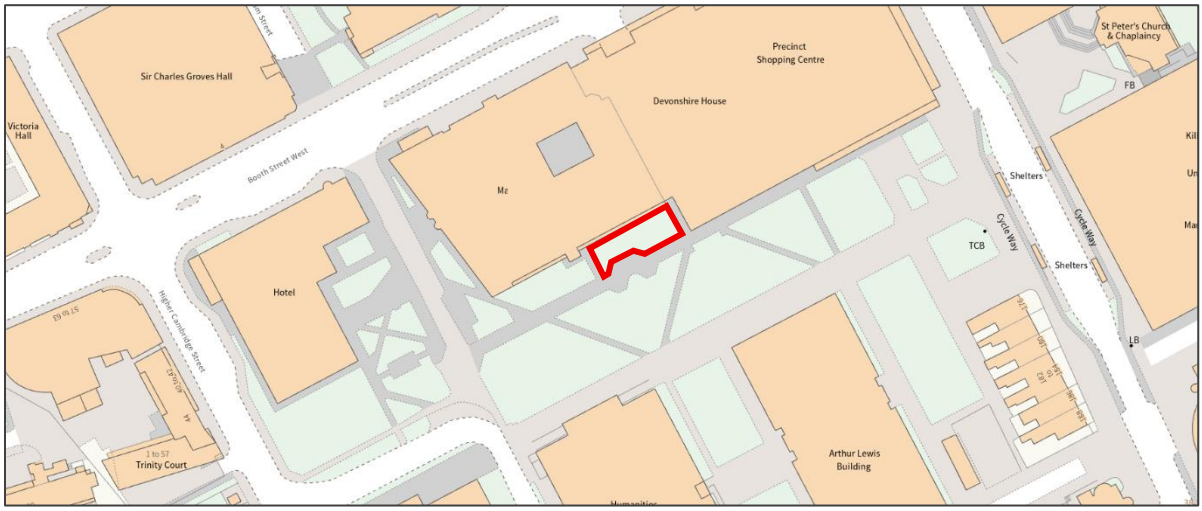
To:	Madeleine Mooney (Halliday Meecham Architects)
From:	Luke Smith MIOA
Subject:	The Mill Event Space, Alliance Manchester Business School // Noise Impact Assessment
Reference:	2026063-TN01
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1. Introduction

1.1. This Note has been prepared by JPM Consult (JPM) with respect to the proposed development at The Mill (Alliance Manchester Business School), Manchester.

1.2. It is understood that an outdoor extension to an existing indoor event space is proposed, which will be located on a small green space outside of the Alliance Manchester Business School. The proposed location is demarked by a red line in **Figure 1.1.**

Figure 1.1: Proposed site location



1.3. This Note qualitatively addresses the potential for noise impacts at local sensitive receptors as a result of the extended event space.

2. Site Location and Development Description

2.1. The Site is located to the south of the Business School and immediately to the west of a small parade of commercial premises. Communal open space lies to the south and west. Further afield, Oxford Road to the east and Higher Cambridge Street to the west represent significant sources of road traffic noise within the area.

2.2. The nearest noise-sensitive receptors to the Site are Hyatt Regency Manchester (The Hyatt), located approximately 80 m to the west, and private residential properties at Trinity Court, approximately 130 m to the west. Given that The Hyatt is understood to have a sealed façade, with ventilation provided via mechanical systems (as is typical of many hotels), it is considered unlikely that occupants would be materially exposed to noise associated with The Development. This assessment therefore focuses on the residential receptors at Trinity Court.

2.3. The Development comprises an outdoor area, including seating, to facilitate informal congregation associated with the existing indoor event space within the Business School. It is anticipated that the space would be used on a periodic (e.g. weekly), seasonal basis, primarily for modest, low-intensity events such as conferences, lunches/dinners, and occasional awards evenings.

2.4. The space is intended to operate during daytime and early evening periods only. Any music provision would be ancillary in nature, serving as background or ambience only, and not for a dancefloor.

3. Noise Assessment

3.1. The prevailing acoustic environment at The Site is typical of an urban setting, characterised by continuous road traffic noise, frequent pedestrian activity, and light operational noise from surrounding commercial uses.

3.2. Of particular relevance is the existing adjacent communal area, which functions as an established gathering space for groups (notably students), and the outdoor seating areas associated with the nearby commercial premises to the east, including cafés and restaurants. In both instances, the noise generated is of a similar type and character to that expected from The Development.

3.3. In the vicinity of the identified noise-sensitive receptors, road traffic on Higher Cambridge Street and Booth Street West represents the dominant noise source, with traffic from Oxford Road also perceptible to a lesser degree.

3.4. The principal noise sources associated with The Development are anticipated to be:

- Existing low-level music from the internal event space, which may be audible externally when doors are open to the proposed outdoor space; and

- conversational noise from attendees using the outdoor space.

3.5. As any music from the internal event space is intended to be ancillary and maintained at background levels, it would not be of sufficient loudness to interfere with normal conversation in the proposed outdoor space. Accordingly, it is unlikely to give rise to a significant noise impact at the nearest residential receptors, located approximately 130 m from The Site. Furthermore, any breakout of internal music to the outdoor space would occur via south-facing openings, thereby limiting direct propagation towards receptors located laterally to the west.

3.6. With regard to attendee noise, The Site already forms part of a wider communal area regularly used by members of the public, including groups of students. The nature and magnitude of conversational noise associated with The Development is therefore unlikely to be significantly different from that which already exists. When considered alongside the separation distance to Trinity Court, and the presence of intervening road traffic noise from Higher Cambridge Street, it is considered unlikely that The Development would result in adverse noise impacts at Trinity Court.

3.7. In conclusion, the proposed outdoor extension to the existing indoor event space at The Mill is unlikely to generate substantial noise levels when in use during the daytime and early evening. In light of this and given the significant distance to the nearest noise sensitive receptors, it is considered unlikely that an adverse noise impact would arise. Therefore, the matter of noise need not be a determining factor in consideration of the proposed planning application.

Luke Smith MIOA

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